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Preserving Landscapes

Rural Landscapes

Hugh C. Miller

Why is what happens today at Antietam Battlefield important to the English at Battle Abbey (Hastings 1066)? Why is what happened at the village of Longnor in the Peak District National Park important to the village of Everett at the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area? These areas are worlds apart in terms of time and space and yet the management and protection of the countryside in national parks and historic sites in England have a lot in common with cultural landscape resources that are under similar threats in the United States.

During a recent travel exchange sponsored by the Sir Herbert Manzoni Scholarship Trust of Birmingham, England, I found that we can learn from each other and find answers together about rural landscape preservation. I came to realize that there are many lessons we can learn from the English system of managing parks. From us, they could learn how we have developed methods for identification of historic landscape values that have become the basis for management strategies in natural and cultural areas. There are also mutual concerns to find methods to define and communicate resource issues and values. We could study together to find answers to these questions and to raise national, or even international, awareness of these landscape assets at risk.

The agrarian landscapes of America near urban centers are fast disappearing. We in the United States need to identify, as have the English, the significant rural landscapes worth saving. Even in the U.S. National Park System protection and maintenance of agrarian lands as cultural landscapes are generally not considered. In many recreation areas they are intentionally obliterated as the result of misguided planning goals. As we now begin to consider the protection of cultural landscapes in the United States, we should also look for alternative management strategies.

The English system of national parks, where most of the land base is in private ownership, is not perfect; yet it is worth examining as a method for managing recreation areas and natural and historic resources in the U.S. National Park System and protecting national natural or historic landmarks with large multi-owned land areas. The success of the English national park is in its definition of values—often scenic, to the detail of small wetlands habitats or medieval field walls. Planning is comprehensive enough to indicate management options. Implementation is based on a partnership with incentives or grants, often from non-park agencies, like the Ministry of Agriculture or Ministry of Labor, to carry out the park plan or to protect the park resources. The success of these parks is based on this partnership where the park managers and the private owners have a mutual understanding of and desire to protect the same values.

This partnership is also built on accommodation of an economic viability for the private owner and protection of the land or villages with the appropriate level of public access and public use of the park. This understanding of values is built with a continuous process of planning and implementation with an active park technical assistance program and funding from a multitude of sources—other national agencies, local government,

foundations and private investment. At best, as I observed in the Peak District National Park, there is a highly sophisticated partnership between private owners, local government, the park board and the park management. In other parks where the values are not as broadly accepted there is a tension between "the farmers" and the visitors over access issues, and with park management over protection issues. Even here the land base is protected from gross land use changes. We should learn to do so well as to have land areas with basic park values protected with less-than-fee interest.

The U.S. and English park managers should jointly learn how to define countryside or rural landscape as a national asset and describe the values in tangible terms. For the English the "well kept" countryside is a visual quality that is ingrained in the psyche. There is little discussion of their landscape features as historic or cultural resources. This image of "manicured" rural countryside is accepted as "standard"; it may be undistinguished farm land or green belt; it may be national parks or other zoned reserves with agricultural uses or it may be estate land owned by the National Trust, English Heritage or the Crown. These places are important to the way that the English think about themselves, but these rural landscapes are not considered "historic." While there is scholarly study of historic landscapes in England, there is little articulation of this information to assess values or develop an ethos for protection and management of the historic countryside. (This is not true of historic estate parks.)

Sense of Value

We share a common need to evaluate rural landscapes for significant natural and cultural features and to identify the threats to these special places. We in the U.S. have so much rural countryside that we take its scenic and historical value for granted. We don't miss it until it is gone. Only by identifying historic significances and integrity of these landscapes as resources and as special places can their characteristics and limitations be recognized to eliminate or mitigate adverse change or remove existing adverse impacts. The value of rural landscapes must be described as national assets with economic value beyond the tangible property.

In England, the solution to the encroachment of modern society on historic resources is needed at places like Hadrian's Wall or Battle Abbey where the Battle of Hastings occurred in 1066. Here views and vistas of a rural scene should be a contextually abstract setting and should not be interrupted by power transmission towers or houses in a subdivision. The same intensity of identification of landscape features is needed to develop a landscape protection plan for Richmond Battlefield or Antietam. There is also a need to develop preservation standards and management methods to identify and protect the dynamic biotic cultural resources of the landscape as well as preserve the landscape's more static features.

In the private preservation sector and at the State and local level there are growing concerns and interest in rural preservation. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has recognized the value of "place" as an identity factor in people's selection of where they want to work and live (or how good they feel about where they live). Using a multi-million dollar bond issue for economic development, Massachusetts is investing in "Heritage Parks" in urban centers and identifying, protecting and rehabilitating open spaces—Olmsted parks, state parks and scenic areas. With this identification and protection of "place" as a goal, the State has formed a partnership where the public dollars invested by state and local (and in the case of Lowell— Federal) authorities are leveraged by private investment many fold. This is economic development as an investment in "place."

In Maryland, the Governor recently has acted to bring the state into county zoning and planning questions at Antietam. There is the realization that the rural setting of Antietam and the newly nominated South Mountain National Historic Landmark District are more than protecting lands associated with the battlefield actions and troop movement of the Civil War. Planning and development here are more than local land use issues. There is a recognition

that Antietam is an asset to the State, not just for tourism, but as a special place to be protected with careful land use planning and development controls that will permit development only when it "fits." In both Massachusetts and Maryland partnerships are being formed to invest in specifically designated places with nationally, regionally or locally significant history or natural beauty that is important to the individual and image of a "good place to be."

This is the same psyche that makes the English countryside important enough to protect with zoning designations of "national parks," "places of special scenic beauty" and "places of special scientific interest." This is the same sense of values that protects prehistoric or historic sites and historic structures managed by English Heritage whether they are nationally owned or "scheduled" on a listing of historic property in private ownership. In these cases private owners in England participate in a process that protects natural, cultural and scenic values in a partnership with government for planning and controls that include incentives and grants.

We in the United States have the potential for a similar partnership using the presence of national park areas or the designation of national natural or historic landmarks to define the broader values of these places as "landscapes with special qualities. "

We have an opportunity to join with English Heritage, the Countryside Commission and others in England to learn together how to identify natural, cultural and scenic resources and to define values so that protection for rural landscapes is not just a role of a government agency, but an active partnership with all levels of government, with non-profit organizations and with private owners. In the future rural landscapes with park values will be protected by forces outside the public ownership.

Definitions

Cultural Landscape. A geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources, including the wildlife or domestic animals therein, that has been influenced by or reflects human activity or was the background for an event or person significant in human history. There are five general kinds of cultural landscapes, not mutually exclusive:

Historic scene. A micro-environment where a significant historic event occurred, frequently with associated structures or other tangible remains. In historic areas, such remains often are the most significant physical resource of the park. The cultural scene provides the context for understanding and interpreting the events, ideas, or persons associated with the park. The historic scene is always present in historic parks, although its integrity may be severely diminished because of intrusions such as nearby developments, inappropriate plantings, or lack of maintenance.

Historic site. A site where an event or activity has imbued a particular piece of ground with significance warranting preservation of the historic appearance of the landscape, i.e., battlefields, landing sites, and historic routes.

Historic designed landscape. A landscape where form, layout and/or designer, rather than significant events or persons, are the primary reasons for its preservation, although both may be relevant. With historic designed landscapes, as with historic structures, attention to detail is important, i.e., formal gardens and parks such as at Vanderbilt National Historic Site or Olmsted National Historic Site.

Historic vernacular landscape. A landscape possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of natural and man-made components which are united by human use and past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

Ethnographic landscape. A landscape characterized by use by contemporary peoples, including subsistence hunting and gathering, religious or sacred ceremonies, and traditional meetings. A difficult resource to manage because its significance derives from human interaction with or consumptive use of the natural environment. To effectively manage the area, the park manager must assure perpetuation of the resources, should afford contemporary groups or individuals the opportunity to continue their traditional uses, and must provide for the general park visitor.

From Cultural Resources Management Guidelines, NPS-28, National Park Service.

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The Tao House Courtyard: Exposing a Playwright's Garden

Cathy Gilbert

The National Park Service has undertaken a variety of landscape preservation projects over the last several years, exploring both cultural and designed historic landscapes. The identification, evaluation and management of these landscapes present many challenging issues to the designer and preservationist. Some of these issues were addressed during a landscape preservation project, conducted at Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site in Danville, California.

Eugene and Carlotta O'Neill moved to California and purchased property for their home in 1937, shortly after Eugene O'Neill was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature. Located 30 miles east of San Francisco, the 157-acre site was remote and isolated on a ridge of the Las Trampas Hills, with views of Mt. Diablo and the orchards of the San Ramon Valley below. The Tao House was the O'Neills' home for over six years—a period many critics consider the playwright's most creative. During their time there, the O'Neills developed the grounds surrounding the main residence, including a courtyard garden within a walled enclosure on the southwest side of the house. Somewhat formal in design, the courtyard included a rock garden, fish pool, walkways, clipped hedges, rock walls and several features that personalized the garden.

The O'Neills sold the house and property in 1944, and for the next 30 years the site was occupied by a single owner. In 1947, the courtyard was redesigned by the Bay Area landscape firm of Osmundson Staley. Incorporating many of the existing features, the courtyard was reshaped into a California Style garden, which is for the most part intact today.

In 1980, title to the property was transferred to the NPS which currently maintains a cooperative agreement with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation. The Foundation sponsors various programs at the site and the NPS is responsible for site operations. The park and the region have undertaken several preservation projects aimed at enhancing the interpretive environment at the site. In conjunction with the architectural rehabilitation and restoration of the Tao House, last year a significant preservation project addressed the courtyard garden. The purpose of the project was to identify significant historic remnants in the courtyard and reestablish the garden to the O'Neill period. No attempt was made to reestablish the garden to a specific year; rather, the intent was to present the garden with its key components and relationships as it evolved over a six year period.

Historic Features

Early research for the project revealed a good level of historic documentation for the courtyard. Historic resource studies, historic photographs, and excerpts from Carlotta O'Neill's diaries were used to understand the physical structure, design intent and symbolic associations for many landscape components. Investigations on the site itself indicated a significant portion of material from the O'Neill garden remains either below grade, undefined or in new forms. For example, when the garden was redone in 1947, rather than excavate a large concrete trough (fish pool), the top of the feature was simply broken off and debris cast inside the trough for fill. The area was then regraded and covered with new paving. While other materials from the O'Neill period are evident in the contemporary garden, several important features are either missing or inappropriate in the historic garden. As much as 80 percent of the existing plant material in the courtyard is nonhistoric and inappropriate to the historic design.

A process for identifying important historic features and evaluating their significance was critical for achieving a responsible design proposal. It was through this process that a series of landscape principles was developed to guide restoration and re-establishment of the O'Neill garden. In general, design issues fell into one of two categories: either the issue involved the physical landscape or the design integrity of the historic garden.

Design issues concerning the physical landscape focused on the selection and replacement of historic material, and the repair or reconstruction of historic features in the courtyard. Replacement of historic fabric is always a difficult issue in landscape preservation, especially when the historic context of the landscape has changed. In addition, contemporary site limitations, changes in site use and function, maintenance practices and unclear or contradictory historic documentation often complicate the decision-making process. Understanding the individual historic feature and its significance in relation to the overall garden was a key factor in determining an appropriate treatment. This principle, for example, was used to determine the selection and replacement of plant materials. In this project, plant materials were organized into three categories. The first category included plants that are historic but are in such poor condition they present a significant safety hazard. If the plant was not a rare specimen and did not have a high symbolic association in the historic design, it was replaced in kind. The second category included historic plants that have changed so dramatically since the O'Neill period, that the historic context of the landscape has been compromised. This was the case with the oldest tree in the courtyard.

Damaged by storms over several years, the tree survives; but its crown has altered so much it no longer provides shade to an area of the courtyard historically covered by the canopy of its large limbs. In the evaluation, the significance of the tree as a historic feature in the garden was valued higher than the impact on the landscape caused by the change. Therefore, the tree will remain and a graft will be taken for future replacement. In the area of the garden no longer shaded by the tree, an interim planting of materials that can tolerate the sun and are similar in form, texture, shape and association to the historic material will be used until other plantings mature. This solution retains both the tree as a significant historic feature, and the design intent of the garden. The third category included all nonhistoric plants. These materials were selectively replaced with plants that were depicted in historic photographs, or noted in Carlotta O'Neill's diaries.

Decisions regarding replacement of other materials and features followed on a similar process. Reconstruction was allowed only for features that exist (in some form) in the garden today. Construction details for repair of damaged features, and replacement of missing components, were developed based on existing remnants and careful examination of the historic record. In every case, the criteria for determining replacement of various garden features was based on the significance of the individual feature, relative to the greater garden design.

Current Use

Another group of issues in the project involved the historic garden and the parameters of design integrity. These were primarily issues of "fit" or the capacity of the historic garden to accommodate contemporary use. Two significant aspects in this category were visitor access and maintenance. Whereas re-establishment of the courtyard garden was predicated on re-delineation of existing historic components, there was much discussion about the sanctity of several features. Criteria for determining integrity of an individual component was based on an evaluation of its functional role and its symbolic association in the historical design. For example, once the historic entry walk is reestablished, access through the courtyard will be awkward for most visitors and virtually impossible for the impaired. The question was, could the historic design of the walkway be modified to accommodate unrestricted access and still retain integrity? Based on the criteria, the walkway will retain integrity of function as long as it is a path. But the feature as designed by the O'Neills was more than just a path through the courtyard. By design, the walkway was formal, contained

and symbolically connected to the greater garden context. It controlled direction, speed and the visual orientation. These characteristics were vital to the physical design of the entry walk. Although there was some flexibility, these features could not be altered significantly without jeopardizing the design integrity of the whole. Given these design parameters, several alternatives for handicap access were developed in conjunction with the historic walk. A solution was chosen that retains the initial entry experience for everyone, uses other existing historic pathways and has a minimum impact on the historic fabric. This path, along with the entry designed by the O'Neills, will provide visitor access for everyone.

Maintenance and site management concerns involved pragmatic issues such as upkeep of the historic garden and interpretation of the courtyard. Prior to any design work, meetings with the park and regional staff provided a clear sense of the capabilities and limitation for maintenance and management of the courtyard garden. Although maintenance alone did not drive design decisions, careful consideration was given to the merit of replacing features that were poorly designed in the first place, or cannot be maintained today as they were historically. Features such as exotic plant materials and random edging details give character to the garden and often enhance interpretive opportunities, but when added to overall maintenance tasks, these features can create considerable problems. In the courtyard, features were replaced only if they were fundamental to the historic design. If the feature presented a safety hazard or put an unreasonable burden on maintenance that could not be mitigated by design treatment, it was not reconstructed.

Overall preservation of the Tao House courtyard was guided not only by efforts to reclaim and protect the resource, but by a commitment to enhance our access to it. Careful and close collaboration between the park and the region facilitated a more comprehensive and responsible preservation plan for the site as a whole based not on artifact alone but on the relationship among several resources within a historic context. Construction on the historic courtyard is scheduled to begin soon.

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Archeological Resources in the NHL Program

Richard C. Waldbauer

Only about 10% of the approximately 1,800 National Historic Landmarks (NHLs) were designated because of the significance of their archeological remains (although many more NHLs were recognized within their accompanying documentation as having primary archeological components). This lack of representation needs to be addressed, and there needs to be more awareness of how registration of archeological properties in the NHL program can contribute to their long term preservation. A second important issue is the high number of archeological NHLs that are endangered, particularly by threats of erosion, vandalism, and development projects. General information needs to be collected on the condition of archeological properties so that assessments can be made which will lead to cost effective treatments.

Objectives

The archeological assistance program has two objectives for activities to be undertaken in FY 1988 by the regional and Washington offices. The first is to encourage completion of archeological nominations as NHLs and to the National Register of Historic Places. The regional and Washington offices plan to work with individual experts in the preparation of nomination forms for archeological NHLs. Each regional office will prepare or assist in preparation of at least two NHL nominations. The Archeological Assistance Division (AAD) will coordinate with the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) NHL Committee and experts to identify potential NHL archeological properties. Attention will focus on properties associated with the themes of contact between Europeans and native cultures and ethnic communities. The review of submitted nominations will be coordinated between the NPS History Division and AAD, and will involve the SAA committee and other WASO National Register divisions.

The second objective is to produce a technical brief on completing condition assessments of endangered archeological NHLs. The ability to provide assistance to endangered archeological NHLs is a function of identifying the archeological resources and their current conditions, prioritizing treatments according to the most immediate threats, and defining treatment plans that include necessary work and costs. The technical brief will emphasize guidance on development of treatment plans, such as applications of site stabilization techniques, through systematic condition assessments. Additionally, there will be guidance on standardized information about archeological resources in NHL properties which is necessary to insure cost effective protection to these values as part of an overall management plan. The technical brief will be drafted by the Western Regional Office, reviewed in the archeological assistance program, and coordinated with the Preservation Assistance Division for implementation.

Interaction

Cooperation from other Federal agencies, State agencies, professional organizations, and individuals is needed to improve the representation of important archeological properties as NHLs. Such an improvement will increase the awareness of and appreciation for archeological resources by the general public, legislators, and developers. Increased participation in the NHL program is an excellent means for promoting interest in archeology and concern for archeological properties. This kind of participation is being sought through two workshops sponsored by the archeological assistance program in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office and the Office of New Jersey Heritage to be held consecutively in January. In addition to instruction for completing National Register and NHL nomination forms,

participants will discuss registration issues and help implement a challenging new program for New Jersey. Such innovative, interactive approaches to archeological preservation require cooperation among the many organizations and individuals concerned about impacts to archeological resources.

Improved awareness of the structure of the NHL program also is needed. This is particularly important with regard to the NHL thematic framework, which can serve as a tool to develop historic contexts as well as the basis for evaluating national significance. In southeastern states there has been an emphasis on completing historic contexts for planning and management purposes. The archeological assistance program in the Southeast Regional Office recently convened a workshop that included archeologists from ten State Historic Preservation Offices to share information on progress and discuss applications of historic contexts in planning. It was shown that the thematic framework provides an immediately available set of categories appropriate for this process. Improved awareness of uses of the thematic framework would contribute to interaction between agencies concerned about information exchange and cost effectiveness in their archeological preservation programs.

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NHL Architecture Theme

Carolyn Pitts

In November of 1987, the Secretary of the Interior's Advisory Board recommended that 15 structures or historic districts be designated National Historic Landmarks (NHLs) under the Architecture theme. Among the other buildings, there were four sites designed by Henry Hobson Richardson (1838-86), acknowledged to be one of America's finest architects and the first native American to attain truly international stature. His influence was tremendous, especially on his immediate successors: the "Classical" architects Charles Folen McKim and Stanford White and Louis Sullivan, the great 19th century romantic. The series of library buildings, designed late in his life, are generally regarded to be among the architect's best works, expressing great power of design. As he matured, his work showed progressively more simplification and coherence. Each library became more compact than the previous one, all using the heavy archway and continuous bands of windows which are the hallmarks of his "Romanesque" style. America acquired an indigenous architectural style with Richardson's "cultural community center" libraries. Most of Richardson's libraries were designed to house not only books, but were also community cultural centers, art museums, natural history collections, as well as lecture halls. They reflect the late-19th-century flowering of popular education in this country represented by the Chatauqua and other mass cultural movements. They also served as memorials to men who had helped to build small-town America.

The four sites honored by the National Park Service are in chronological order: Winn Memorial, Woburn; Crane Memorial, Quincy; Converse Memorial, Malden; and the complex of buildings in North Easton, all in Massachusetts.

Winn Memorial Library, Woburn, MA (1876-79)

The Winn Memorial is the first of Richardson's great series of library designs and it is here that he established the characteristic, asymmetrical plan that gave these educational structures variety, coherence, and real monumentality. The Woburn library still belongs to the Victorian High Gothic style, but it bears the emphatic stamp of individual genius and it is one of the most important designs of the architect's most creative period between 1870 and 1878.

Crane Memorial Library, Quincy, MA (1881-82)

The Crane Memorial is the simplest plan of all of Richardson's libraries and the adjoining additions (1908, 1930s) are appended to the original library with great respect for the original library.

On February 20, 1880, Albert Crane of New York, offered the town of Quincy a library dedicated to his father, Thomas Crane, a dealer in Quincy granite. Thomas made a fortune in New York following a fire in the commercial district in 1835. Among the buildings Crane helped construct are the New York Custom House and the old Grand Central Station.

Converse Memorial Library, Malden, MA (1885, 1916)

The Malden library is the last of Richardson's libraries. As his style matured, Richardson's buildings became less complex and more coherent—all became more compact using the heavy "Syrian" archway entrance, continuing bands of windows, and "eyebrow" roof windows that are typical of his "Romanesque" style.

The early history of the Converse Memorial is full of Victorian melodrama. The Library was a gift to the City of Malden from a wealthy industrialist who wished to build a memorial to his 17-year-old son tragically murdered in December 1863. Frank Eugene Converse was on duty at his father's bank when the robbery and murder occurred. The newspapers exploited the sensationalism of the crime and the town postmaster, Edward Green, was apprehended, tried, and convicted of the murder. Subsequently, legions of Boston reformers tried to save Green from hanging and, as a result, the "Malden murder" was the most talked about crime in Massachusetts in the 19th century.

For years after their son's murder, Elisha and Mary Converse had considered ways of honoring the memory of their son, but it was not until 1883 that they found what they considered a perfect and lasting memorial—the Converse Memorial Building for the public library. Mr. and Mrs. Converse also donated the collection of painting and sculpture that formed the nucleus of the art collection with an endowment to purchase additional works. The Converse family planned a memorial in the aftermath of the crime that was to be comprised of two structures on adjacent lots: the First Baptist Church and a new public library, both to be designed by Henry Hobson Richardson.

Although the church was not built until seven years later by another architect, the new library and art gallery was commissioned in 1884 when Richardson and Frederick Law Olmsted visited the site. Construction began in the Spring of 1884 and the building was dedicated October 1, 1885.

The furniture was designed by Richardson and manufactured by the Boston firm of Albert H. Davenport Company. Although it is now carefully preserved, it is the largest collection of his furniture extant.

H.H. Richardson Historic District, North Easton, MA

North Easton is the result of an extraordinary collaboration between two of the towering figures of 19th-century America. Henry Hobson Richardson and Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) worked together under the patronage of the unusual family that turned a small iron foundry into a shovel manufactory that produced great wealth. In a short eight years, this small industrial village became a beautifully coherent planned town containing several of the century's architectural landmarks.

There are five Richardson buildings in this historic district: the Oliver Ames Free Library, the Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, the Gate Lodge at Langwater, the Gardener's Cottage at Langwater, and the Old Colony Railroad Station. The boundaries encircle the contiguous Library and Memorial Hall, and Rockery in front, the two structures at Langwater, and the third boundary is for the railroad station. A great deal of the visual impact of North Easton is due to the genius of Olmsted. The village of North Easton has a collection of works by Richardson, largely due to the patronage of one resident manufacturing family—the Ames. The town depended on this family's manufacture of shovels and tools and was built radiating from the core of factories and railroad station to a ring of workers' houses to finally the larger estates on the outer edges. The town today still retains its orderly village aspect.

Oliver Ames Free Library (1877-83)

Although the Library was commissioned in September, 1877, the building did not open until 1883, possibly because of cost overruns. Set at the head of a gently sloping lawn, this strong, rusticated building seems to rise from the ground looking less ponderous than its heavy walls suggest. This building is less complex than the other libraries and as a result is a much more unified design.

Oakes Ames Memorial Hall (1879-81)

Adjacent to the Library in the center of North Easton, the Memorial Hall was commissioned by the children of Oakes Ames as a memorial. Richardson received the commission in February 1879. Norcross Brothers began construction in the summer of 1879. The dedication was held on November 17, 1881, although Olmsted continued to work on the landscaping until 1883-85.

Olmsted designed the siting of the Hall on a rocky ledge with stairs that seemed to be gouged out of the rock. Starting at the foundations of roughhewn material, the masonry evolves into the beautifully worked stone of the Hall. This is an expression of that picturesque ideal of harmony with nature, so strongly advocated by Olmsted.

Frederick Lothrop Ames Gate Lodge (188~81)

While the Library and Memorial Hall were being built, F.L. Ames, a cousin, was expanding his private estate called Langwater. He also commissioned a railroad station as a gift to the Railroad Company and to North Easton. The Langwater estate dates from 1859 with 1876 additions, but the north part of the estate remained unfinished. Richardson, Olmsted, and F.L. Ames began planning for the new area in 1879.

The decision to build the Gate Lodge must have been made in late 1879 or early 1880, since the project entered the office in March 1880. Construction by Norcross began that summer and was finished the following year. Olmsted later produced landscape designs for the estate which were carried out in 1886-87. The Gate Lodge remains today in the private ownership of the Ames family. It is one of the most remarkable of all of Richardson's achievements.

F.L. Ames Gardener's Cottage (1884-85)

This cottage was commissioned when the space in the Gate Lodge proved inadequate for the gardener's growing family. This small house was built some 400 feet east of the Gate Lodge near the stables, conservatory, and planting beds. Richardson received the commission in March 1884. Later enlarged by Richardson's successors, Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge, a second floor was added in place of a large gable. It has been shingled and the back porch enclosed.

Old Colony Railroad Station (1881-84)

F.L. Ames commissioned this station and gave it to the Old Colony Railroad (he was on the Board of Directors). Construction began in 1882 on the commission which entered Richardson's office in November of the previous year. Olmsted landscaped the grounds in 1884.

One of a number of small stations designed by Richardson, it was typically symmetrical with a central lobby and ticket office dividing rooms for men and women. In 1969 the Ames family bought the station back from the New York Central Railroad and gave it to the Easton Historical Society. The original long passenger sheds are gone; otherwise the station remains as it was originally. The Society has restored the building for use as a museum.

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Man in Space: The Voyage Continues

Harry Butowsky

The sites that supported the early American Space Program are as diverse as the technological and engineering innovations upon which they are based. Many of these resources have been designated as National Historic Landmarks (NHLs) as a result of the *Man in Space National Historic Landmark Theme Study* completed by the National Park Service in 1984. (See April 1986 issue of *CRM Bulletin*— "Man in Space: These are the Voyages of..."). With the identification of these resources as NHLs the National Park Service in 1986 began work on the Man in Space Alternatives Study as required by P.L. 96-344 in 1980. The purpose of the Alternatives Study was to identify for the Congress the possible locations of a new unit of the National Park System commemorative of this theme, to recommend to the Congress potential action alternatives to safeguard from change these NHLs, and to display and interpret them to the American public.

The primary concern of the alternatives study was how to best tell the overall Man in Space story through the preservation and interpretation of the 26 Man in Space sites. This concern was complicated because the sites are owned by four separate agencies—the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the United States Air Force, the United States Army, and the Smithsonian Institution—and are scattered all over the United States. Also, many still actively support new programs and missions of NASA.

The alternatives study, which has now been completed, recommends four possible options to accomplish the preservation and interpretation of these sites.

Alternatives

Alternative 1 would allow each agency to continue managing the resources under current authorities. Interpretation would continue to focus on existing and future programs rather than the Man in Space theme identified in the 1984 National Historic Landmark Theme Study. Preservation of these resources would continue to be a low priority. Alternative 2 would expand the role of each agency in preserving and interpreting the 26 sites. The emphasis would be on interpreting the Man in Space Theme through off-site media and visitor access would not be stressed. Alternative 3 would establish a new foundation or commission to coordinate and direct preservation and interpretive programs for the sites nationwide. More emphasis would be placed on providing on-site interpretation, and site preservation would receive more attention. Alternative 4 envisions a leading role for the NPS. Under option A of this alternative an American in Space National Historical Park would be established, focusing on key sites at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and the Kennedy Space Center. Other Man in Space sites would become affiliated areas of the National Park System. Under option B, all of the 26 sites would become affiliated areas, and the NPS would provide interpretive, technical, and funding assistance rather than direct management of the sites.

Immediate Action

While we must wait for congressional action of the Man in Space Alternative Study, the NPS can undertake certain actions to insure some measure of protection to the 25 NHLs and 1 National Register District identified as significant in the history of the American Space Program. These actions can be grouped into three general categories.

1. Develop a prospectus to coordinate and enhance the interpretive programs currently being provided by the agencies that manage the sites.

The 26 sites that illustrate the History of the American Space Program are scattered over the country and are managed by four different agencies. Although the resources relate to and illustrate the history of the American Space Program, there is no effort to interpret them as a unified group to the public. Most visitors to Cape Canaveral, the Smithsonian, or

the Johnson Space Center, for example, are not aware of these resources and have no idea how they all fit together. The interpretation done by these agencies is site-specific with no effort to look at the entire range of the space program. In addition, most of this interpretation is focused on the future of the space program.

These sites should be interpreted as a whole. An interpretive prospectus, developed by the NPS, would accomplish this. The research material has already been gathered and the sites have been visited. We should take advantage of this material and expertise and take the next logical step of developing interpretive material for the Man In Space Sites.

2. Document the sites through the Historic American Buildings Survey and the Historic American Engineering Record.

This recommendation represents the next logical step in the Man In Space effort. While the 26 sites discussed in the alternatives study represent only a small fraction of the technological resources that supported the early American Space Program they represent the best remaining examples of the large technological base that enabled Americans to go to the moon and explore deep space. The physical and documentary record of this technological base needs to be preserved.

For example, it was at great expense that the United States set up the facilities and organized the thousands of skilled technicians who designed and built the most powerful machine ever made—the Saturn V Rocket. Today the construction facilities and tools associated with the Saturn V are gone or altered, the designs are scattered, and possibly lost, and there remains only one intact example in Huntsville, Alabama, now a National Historic Landmark. This Saturn V should be documented according to HAER standards so that the record of its technology will be preserved for future generations.

3. Provide technical assistance to the concerned agencies on preservation, visitor use, and interpretive issues.

While we wait for congressional action on the recommendations of the alternatives study, the NPS should provide immediate support to the concerned agencies focusing on these issues, if requested. This support is implied in the original language of P.L. 96-344 which requested that the study "... shall investigate practical methodologies to permanently safeguard from change the locations, structures, and at least symbolic instrumentation features associated with this theme." A little effort by the NPS in this area will help to preserve these NHLs for the education of future generations.

When Apollo 11 landed on the moon in mid-July 1969, it seemed as if the exploration of the moon had begun in earnest. However, after only six landings on the moon and with a great deal still to be learned, the United States abandoned the moon. The Saturn V rockets and lunar modules meant to carry Americans into space now reside in a few museums around the country, the object of curiosity by visiting tourists.

In a recent editorial on this subject in *Astronomy* magazine, the following comment was made: "These Saturn Vs and lunar modules make a profound statement about our Nation and our character as a people. There is at least a deep irony here, and perhaps it can be called a tragedy. It is a tragedy of a people whose practical genius enables them to build machines for exploring the universe, but whose practicality prevents them from finding the motivation to do so."

The NPS, as a result of the passage of P.L. 96-344, has completed a comprehensive National Historic Landmark Theme Study and Alternatives Study that have identified the significant resources remaining from the early days of the space program. The alternatives study has recommended a positive course of action to build on this effort. It is to be hoped that this effort will be rewarded with those steps necessary to see the eventual preservation of the Man in Space sites and their interpretation to the public. We have the resources, knowledge, and expertise to complete the intent of the Congress as described in P.L. 96-344. We should finish the job so that in the future there is no similar editorial concerning the effort to preserve these historic resources for the generations of Americans yet to come.

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Analyzing the Nation's Historic Ships

James P. Delgado

Previous issues of the *CRM Bulletin* have detailed the cooperative activities of the National Park Service, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the maritime preservation community to inventory, evaluate, and develop standards and guidelines for the preservation of the nation's historic maritime resources.

One important aspect of this work has been an evaluative inventory of large (greater than 40 feet in length) preserved historic vessels. After a two-year effort, a preliminary inventory of nearly 250 vessels has been prepared. This inventory represents all of these vessels which are in public ownership or in the collections of maritime museums and other institutions. Many privately-owned historic large vessels, particularly those still in active use, are not in the inventory, however.

A fairly comprehensive "picture" of the status, condition, uses, and preservation needs of America's historic ships is now available through the inventory. There have been, due to the lack of specific information, some commonly-held assumptions about these vessels. Most ships were presumed to not have been evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and many were presumed to date to the time of World War II.

An analysis of the large vessels inventory is dispelling some of these "myths." The dates of construction for the preserved historic vessels provide the following insights. Only 5.4% were built prior to 1875, by far the most significant period of American maritime history, which includes the rise of the sailing Navy, the packet trade, China trade, the development of the clipper ship and the steamer, the Gold Rush, and the Civil War. The last quarter of the 19th century accounts for 17.2%, while the first decade of the 20th century accounts for 18.8%. WWI vessels account for 6.3%, while the vessels of the interregnum between WWI and WWII account for the greatest percentage—31.8% of the vessels. WWII vessels, thought to be the greatest category, account for the fourth lowest percentage—16.3%, and post-WWII vessels account for 4.2%.

The most common type of historic vessel is schooners, followed by historic naval surface vessels, submarines, various types of steamers, ferryboats, and lightships. Most vessels are located in the New England states. The second largest grouping of vessels are those in the Mid-Atlantic states, with the third largest grouping in the Pacific Coast states. The inland states account for another major group of vessels. The smaller groups (in order) are those in the Great Lakes states, the Gulf states, and the Southeast states.

The majority of these vessels are used as museum ships, most moored as waterside attractions. The greatest number of owners and managers wish to maintain their vessels as floating exhibits, while a smaller group, 11%, want to preserve their vessels in dry land berths. The next largest group, including some museums, want to restore their vessels to operating condition. A small group of some 11% want to adaptively re-use their vessels, mainly for commercial purposes.

What will it cost to achieve these desired preservation objectives? Many vessel owners indicated a need for up to \$100,000. The largest group, 38%, need between \$100,000 and \$500,000. Eight percent need between one-half million to a million dollars, ten percent need one to two million, four percent two to three million, eight percent need three to four million, and six percent need over four million dollars.

What is the significance of these vessels? A special committee was convened by the National Trust at the request of the NPS to rate the importance of these vessels by context of historical significance. The committee rated 27.6% significant at a national level, 23.5% at a regional level, and 16% at a local level; 3.7% were significant only to other nation's history. The committee felt that 11.5% of the vessels were not significant or had a seriously compromised integrity, and 17.7% of the vessels have not yet been rated. A larger number of vessels than previously thought have been evaluated for the National Register, with

41.5% listed, 0.4% determined eligible, and 0.4% determined not eligible. Nonetheless, a substantial 57.6% of the vessels have not yet been submitted or listed and only 15.2% are listed as National Historic Landmarks.

The charts provide a more graphic picture and the various percentages for the location, age, type, condition, present use, significance (as determined by the National Trust Committee on the Inventory and Survey of Historic Maritime Resources), National Register and NHL status, preservation objective, and owner-supplied estimates of preservation costs.

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